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Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 123 (e)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Israel, Jamaica, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Slovenia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/8 of 16 October 1991 and all its subsequent resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community, including its resolution 67/249 of 22 January 2013,

Bearing in mind the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Welcoming the continued commitment of the States members of the Caribbean Community to the United Nations as a principal forum for multilateral cooperation,

Recalling the cooperation agreement between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Caribbean Community, and bearing in mind the cooperation activities undertaken pursuant to that agreement,[1]

Emphasizing the continued importance of regular engagements between the two organizations, including contacts between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, and also between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, with a view to reinforcing cooperation and collaboration,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1978, No. 1197.

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Noting in this connection the seventh general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and the United Nations system, held in New York in July 2013 to review the progress made in implementing the new coordination mechanism led by the United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean and to discuss issues identified as priorities by the Caribbean Community secretariat, including, inter alia, climate change, small island developing States, the post-2015 development agenda, citizen security, transnational organized crime and the illegal trade in small arms and light weapons, as well as agricultural development and non-communicable diseases,

Remaining deeply concerned about the persistent challenges posed by an international environment characterized by, inter alia, the ongoing adverse impacts of the world financial and economic crisis that have been exacerbated by onerous debt, graduation from access to concessionary development funding, the lack of access to energy and sustainable modern energy services, food insecurity, and the adverse effects of climate change, all of which have increased the vulnerabilities and seriously worsened the challenges for the development efforts of the States members of the Caribbean Community,

Noting that the Caribbean Community has prepared a strategic plan for the period 2015-2019 with 11 high-priority areas for focused implementation, which address, inter alia, regional integration, macroeconomic stabilization, building competitiveness for growth and employment generation, human capital development, advancing health and wellness, citizen security and justice, climate adaptation and greenhouse gas mitigation, disaster mitigation and management, information and communications technology, and public education, public information and advocacy,

Recalling the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States and the global commitment to take urgent and concrete action to address those vulnerabilities, including through the sustained and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Barbados Programme of Action)[2] and the Mauritius Strategy, for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Mauritius Strategy),[3]

Taking note of the agreed outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway",[4]

Acknowledging the support that States members of the Caribbean Community have received from the United Nations in their efforts to advance the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy, and further acknowledging the need for continued support in the implementation of the agreed outcomes of the international conferences on small island developing States,

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[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[4] Resolution 69/15, annex.

Noting that the Caribbean region is the second most hazard-prone region in the world, with frequent exposure to devastating natural hazards and extreme weather events, as well as slow-onset climate change events, and concerned that their increased frequency, intensity and destructive power continue to pose a challenge to the development of the region,

Recalling the ongoing recovery of Haiti from the devastating earthquake of 12 January 2010 and subsequent tropical storms and hurricanes that have caused significant loss of life and widespread damage, and stressing the urgent need for renewed and sustained attention to the critical situation in Haiti and to fulfil the pledges made to assist Haiti in its long-term recovery and sustainable development initiatives,

Noting with appreciation the recent collaboration, consultations and information exchanges that have taken place among the United Nations, the Caribbean Community and the States members of the Caribbean Community aimed at strengthening cooperation and regional capacity in a broad range of areas, such as sustainable development, non-communicable diseases, drugs and crime, statistics, free and fair elections, plant and animal health, and food safety, among others,

Affirming the need to further expand and deepen the cooperation that already exists between the Caribbean Community and the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including in the areas of governance, information and communications technology for development, public information and institutional reforms, so as to enhance coherence and effectiveness in the partnership among the United Nations, the Caribbean Community and the States members of the Caribbean Community,

Convinced of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[5] in particular its paragraphs 44 to 54 on the Caribbean Community, concerning efforts to strengthen and deepen cooperation;

2. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in association with the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, as well as the relevant regional organizations, to continue to assist in furthering the development and maintenance of peace and security within the Caribbean region;

3. *Notes* the recent engagements between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community to continue to promote and expand cooperation within their respective mandates so as to increase the capacity of the two organizations to attain their objectives and to seek answers to global challenges, including climate change, disaster risk reduction, sustainable development challenges, including poverty, inequality and non-communicable diseases, and transnational organized crime;

[5] A/69/228-S/2014/560.

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, bearing in mind the particular vulnerabilities of the States members of the Caribbean Community, to intensify their assistance to those States to enable them to address the diverse challenges that these vulnerabilities pose to achieving sustainable development, including through the sustained and effective implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action,[2] the Mauritius Strategy[3] and the SAMOA Pathway,[4] and through the implementation of the Community's strategic objectives;

6. *Highlights* the support that the United Nations Environment Programme has been extending for the implementation of environmental and sustainable development programmes of the Caribbean Community and for the building of capacity to enable effective regional responses to climate change, and further encourages continued collaboration with the Community as well as related regional and national institutions;

7. *Emphasizes* the active cooperation existing between the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Caribbean Community, particularly in supporting the region's preparation for major conferences, improving the capacity of the Community in gathering and analysing data and in deepening its analysis of the intraregional and external trade of the Community, as well as in elaborating on the concept of vulnerability in the context of the graduation of some of its States members, and further encourages continued cooperation with the Community and its States members;

8. *Recalls and reaffirms* the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[6] and welcomes the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;[7]

9. *Takes note* with concern of the acknowledgement in the outcome document that progress has been insufficient and highly uneven in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, due in part to the complexity and challenging nature of non-communicable diseases, and further emphasizes that continued and increased efforts are essential for achieving a world free of the avoidable burden of non-communicable diseases, including through the implementation of multisectoral cost-effective, population wide interventions and the provision of adequate, predictable and sustained resources, through domestic, bilateral and multilateral channels, including traditional and voluntary innovative financing mechanisms;

10. *Affirms* its decision in the outcome document to give due consideration to addressing non-communicable diseases in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda, given their serious socioeconomic consequences and determinants and their links to poverty, and in this regard notes the target for 2030 to reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment, as reflected in the report of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals;[8]

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[6] Resolution 66/2, annex.

[7] Resolution 68/300.

[8] A/68/970 and Corr. 1.

11. *Expresses appreciation* for the robust partnership arrangements among the Caribbean Community, the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization in addressing non-communicable diseases, and commends the valuable supportive role being played by the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization through the provision of technical and other resources to the Caribbean Community in the establishment and operationalization of the Caribbean Public Health Agency as a mechanism for cooperation and coordination across the region on public health policy;

12. *Also expresses appreciation* for the robust support and encouragement that the United Nations continues to give to the Pan-Caribbean Partnership against HIV/AIDS as it continues to perform its role as the regional response mechanism for reducing the spread and impact of HIV and AIDS through a system of universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the existing cooperation between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Caribbean Community, and calls for further deepening of that cooperation in such areas as the contribution of information and communications technology to education, the protection of world heritage sites in the Community, the challenge of male academic underachievement and the role of cultural industries in the economies of the States of the region;

14. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made in the initiative to erect a permanent memorial to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, led jointly by States members of the Caribbean Community and the Group of African States at the United Nations, and in this regard expresses sincere gratitude to those Member States, organizations and individuals that have made contributions to the Trust Fund, and encourages Member States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

15. *Expresses appreciation* for the cooperation received from the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in the implementation of the annual commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade on 25 March and for its support and cooperation rendered in the preparatory activities for establishing a permanent memorial to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, in keeping with the relevant General Assembly resolutions;

16. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in providing technical assistance and capacity-building to States members of the Caribbean Community, including in the management of stockpiles of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition and the destruction of obsolete and seized firearms, ammunition and explosives;

17. *Acknowledges* the launch by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of a regional programme for the period 2014-2016 in support of the Caribbean Community crime and security strategy, developed by the Community's Implementation Agency for Crime and Security, and the conclusion of a memorandum of understanding between the Office and the Agency to facilitate collaboration between the two entities;

18. *Reiterates* the urgent need for the reopening of the office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the region so as to reinforce the efforts of the States of the region in their struggle against the interrelated scourges of transnational organized crime, drugs, violent crime and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community".

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Sixty-ninth session
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Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Israel, Jamaica, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Slovenia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Montenegro, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Samoa, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

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